ANNUAL REPORTS

Medinah Temple

A. A. O. N. M. S.

December twenty-sixth
Nineteen hundred and two

Address of Illustrious Potentate.

Nobles of Medinah Temple:

Two years ago you conferred upon me the highest honor in your gift by electing me Potentate, and again re-electing me one year ago to-night, and I now beg leave to submit an account of my stewardship.

On assuming the emblem of authority in Medinah Temple, Noble W. H. Gray was recognized and spoke on matters relative to our quarters, urging a settlement of affairs then existing between the Medinah Temple Company and Medinah Temple A. A. O. N. M. S. with regard to our lease. As soon as practicable after the annual session, I called a meeting of the Finance Committee, together with the Past Potentates and others who were familiar with the facts, to discuss ways and means of bringing the matter to a successful close. A committee was appointed to wait upon the bondholders, which they did, and endeavored to arrive at some agreement whereby they could buy up the bonds and thus forever settle the question of our future home. I regret to say that in this we were unsuccessful, and for your information I have secured the following from your attorney:

On the 29th day of March, 1894, the Medinah Temple Company executed a trust deed to the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank to secure bonds aggregating the sum of $400,000. Prior to the execution of the trust deed and bonds, however, it is contended that the Shrine was in the actual occupancy of its rooms in the Medinah Temple building under a lease made the previous January. The interest upon these bonds being unpaid on the 17th day of May, 1897, suit was instituted by the trustees to foreclose the property, which upon the 6th day of July, 1901, eventuated in a decree of foreclosure and the sale of the property and its purchase by a committee of the bondholders.

From this decree an appeal was prayed, but in consequence of the extremely large bond required was never perfected. In the meantime, a large number of stockholders united in an application to the court to set aside the order of sale. This case was decided adversely to the complainants in the Circuit Court, and was taken on writ of error to the Appellate Court of Illinois, where the complainants were again defeated. From the decision of the Appellate Court the case went on writ of error to the Supreme Court of Illinois, where again an adverse decision was rendered against the complainants. This case is now pending in the Supreme Court of Illinois on an application for rehearing.

The Shrine, upon finding it impossible to secure bond to enable it to take an appeal, prosecuted a writ of error to the Appellate Court of Illinois, but it was withdrawn in view of the pendency of the case in that court at the same term, which is above referred to. This writ of error can be instituted with equal effect at any time within five years of the time of the rendition of the decree by the Circuit Court. Such action, however, seems to be unnecessary in view of the suit recently instituted by one of the stockholders of the Medinah Temple Company in the United States Circuit Court of this district. The stockholder resides in New York City and brings his action for the purpose of having all of the bonds originally issued to the bondholders by the Medinah Temple Company declared null and void as first liens upon the property, and to declare the amounts paid by such bondholders for said securities payments upon the capital stock of the Medinah Temple Company for their subscriptions, for which they were at that time indebted to an amount in excess of the several sums paid by them on account of the bonds. The complainant asks the court for an accounting and to have the bondholders declared on an equality with all stockholders in the building and to declare the committee of bondholders who purchased the property at foreclosure trustees for the benefit of all the stockholders of the Medinah Temple Company; for a sale of the property and a distribution of the proceeds from such sale among the stockholders.

Counsel for the Shrine who have investigated the papers filed in this suit, report that there is a good deal of merit in the contention of the complainant, and that he will probably be successful in his contention.

In view of the legal contests above referred to, it is difficult at this time to say definitely what is the legal status of the lease held by the Shrine.

OUR TEMPLE.

The progress made in Medinah Temple in the two years just closed is marked with success. The number of candidates that crossed the sands of the desert in the year 1901 were 438; in the year 1902 there were 440; total, 878; exceeding any two years in our previous history. For this I do not assume any special credit personally. I realize, as I said to you when I was installed into office, that the Potentate is helpless without the assistance of the Nobility in general, and the officers of Medinah Temple particularly. Although numerically we are not much stronger than we were two years ago, yet our condition is much healthier, and this is due to the fact that we have suspended 344 Nobles from the Temple for non-payment of dues within the said two years. Our present membership is 3,286.

OUR SESSIONS.

Our sessions are growing larger each meeting, and if the attendance continues to increase in the future as it has in the past (and there is every indication that it will), even these large quarters that we now occupy will be too small to properly accommodate our people, to say nothing about taking proper care of our visitors, and what is it that brings out such a large attendance? It is the good time that is prepared for you. Our ceremonials are interesting, our entertainments are good and our banquets are bountiful with good things. What more can be added to this great social organization? (Consideration in its full extent.) Consider, first, that your neighbor would enjoy quietness, and with your assistance in this direction you will make him happy. Second, that your officers will appreciate every effort that you make in this direction, and also by giving your attention to our visiting Nobles, and extending to them that hospitality for which Medinah Temple is known throughout the Mystic Shrine world. Third, that in going to the banquet hall and to the vaudeville there is a disposition, or rather, eagerness, on the part of some of our members to get there in a hurry, thereby causing discomfort to the great majority by pushing and crowding so that the dignity of our order is entirely lost sight of. Fourth, that your officers leave nothing undone to secure the best talent procurable for our vaudeville (and Noble George W. Irish is prepared to vouch for this), and remember that courtesy and affability are appreciated by all, and especially by those who are engaged for your entertainment.

OUR DEAD.

In the two years just closed the Black Camel has visited our Temple seventy-five times, and seventy-five nobles of Medinah Temple have for the last time crossed the dark desert into the unseen Temple above:

"We're born, we breathe, we suffer and we die;"
And eagerly to know the reason why
The finite to the infinite appeals;
The gulf 's impassable — there is no reply.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

We have had two ladies' entertainments; one on the 25th of October, 1901, and one on October 24, 1902. On both of these occasions we have had opera—Fra Diavalo on the former occasion and

Mikado on the latter. This part of the entertainment lasted about two hours and a half and the balance of the evening was devoted to dancing. Both of these entertainments were pronounced a success by those who participated. Both were largely attended, and on the latter occasion about five hundred people were unable to gain admission for lack of accommodation. A beautiful souvenir was given to the ladies on both of these occasions, suitably inscribed with the emblems of our order, and were a great feature of both events.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

On June 11, 1901, the Imperial Council met in Kansas City, Missouri. Medinah Temple made a pilgrimage to attend this session by special train, together with our Oriental Band and Patrol. While this was a short run from Chicago to Kansas City it was full of interest from start to finish. Our quartet furnished the music and the Patrol intermixed with good stories, and the Missourians of Ararat Temple deserve commendation for the manner in which they entertained the pilgrims on this occasion. Our Oriental Band and Patrol were a feature of the parade on this occasion. The line of march was arranged so as to pass through the Convention Hall, where it was reviewed by Imperial Potentate Lou B. Winsor. The sight of this Convention Hall is one long to be remembered. No less than fifteen thousand seats were occupied by ladies in said hall, and presented an appearance that seemed more like a bank of American beauties than I ever beheld before. On this oceasion our Patrol also took part in the exhibition drill, and were rewarded for their labors by being presented with a beautiful banneret. Medinah Temple was further honored on this occasion by the appointment of one of her delegates to a station in the Imperial Council Divan of Officers. This honor meant more to the pilgrims of Medinah Temple than I can here express.

Our next pilgrimage was to San Francisco, California, where the Imperial Council met June 10 and 11, 1902. This pilgrimage consumed twenty-one days, and was pronounced by those participating as the most interesting and enjoyable trip ever made. Starting from Chicago in a vestibule train consisting of Pullman sleepers, combination and dining cars, with a supply in the baggage car to cover the entire pilgrimage. This figured greatly to the successful conclusion of the trip. It mattered not whether we were late or on time, our meals were always on time in the dining car, and the lunch counters en route were given a wide berth. Our route covered some of the most interesting scenery on this continent. From the beautiful farm lands of Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, on through the wonderful peaks of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and the far-famed Sierra Nevada Mountains, we then descended into the beautiful valley of Sacramento, where sunshine and flowers are in abundance. On the afternoon of June 9th we arrived in San Francisco, with every face smiling and blooming with health, and ready to do the coast to a finish. While the trip going was interesting, the trip returning was greatly more so. Bounding northward from San Francisco, over the wonderful Mount Shasta, encircling her snow-capped peak from about two o'clock in the afternoon, until finally we lost it in the darkness. Next morning we found ourselves in the beautiful agricultural valley of Oregon. Arriving at Portland, where a train was in waiting to convey our party up to Cascade Locks on that most beautiful stream, the Columbia River, where a steamer awaited us, and on which we embarked and came down the river a distance of seventy-four miles. This river trip was full of interest. Viewing the salmon traps on both sides of the river, we finally pulled up to a cannery, where we disembarked and saw the salmon canned. Beginning on the one side the salmon is brought in, and following along down the other side of the building you will find the salmon ready for the market, or ready to be put upon the table to be eaten. After this inspection we again embarked and steamed down the river to Portland. The scenery along this most beautiful river is beyond description. One must see it to appreciate it.

From Portland we rolled on to Seattle, and from Seattle by boat we sailed into British Columbia. This trip down the sound was not only beautiful but invigorating. Arriving at Victoria the party was chaperoned by the U. S. Consul into Parliament while in session, and after taking in some of the most interesting sights we again embarked and arrived in Seattle next morning at seven o'clock, where the biggest part of the day was spent taking in the sights of that hustling city. Again boarding our vestibule train we sped on toward Spokane, where the entire party was entertained by the Shriners of Spokane, and a very enjoyable day was spent there. From Spokane we proceeded on to Butte, one of the most wonderful and interesting mining camps on the continent. The Shriners of this city can justly be called "buttes." We pulled in there in the morning on the 19th day of June. The sky was clear and the weather crisp—indeed, a perfect day for sight-seeing. The party was taken in charge by the Shriners and taken over the entire system of electric car lines, which was not only interesting, but wonderful, climbing up the high grades into the business and resident portion of the city, which is located upon the

mountains where not a sprig of green is known to grow. After this trip the party was divided into groups and taken into the mines, descending into the earth from nine to twelve hundred feet. This was most interesting and reminds one of a honeycomb, tunnels running in every direction under the city. On reassembling we captured the mayor and other notables of the city and entertained them at luncheon in our dining car. This was a very enjoyable event and will long be remembered by both the pilgrims of Medinah Temple and the Nobles of the city of Butte. From Butte we turned our direction toward Livingston, thence to Cinnabar, where our train was sidetracked, and the party proceeded by coach to Mammoth Hot Springs, Yellowstone Park, where the day was spent in gazing at wonders of nature. After putting in a day in this wonderful spot, we proceeded on toward the Twin Cities of Minnesota. Arriving at St. Paul at eight o'clock in the morning we were met by a delegation from Osman Temple, who entertained the party that day, and at five o'clock P. M. we again turned our attention homeward. Thanks to the Nobles of Osman. This last night of our pilgrimage was a review of the whole affair. Everybody had something to tell, and if it were all reduced to writing it would make a very interesting tale. The next morning we rolled into the North-Western depot, Chicago, after a journey of about eight thousand miles, with everybody in the best of health and spirits. Thus endeth a great pilgrimage. Thanks to the All-wise for our safe conduct back home.

An important report was made at this session by the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and Laws, they to report to the Imperial Council at the next session, to be held at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., July 8th and 9th, 1903, recommending a change of the initiation fee from $25.00 to $50.00, as the minimum fee to be charged by all temples of the A. A. O. N. M. S. for North America.

But when all is said of this great pilgrimage there is nothing comparable to the honor conferred upon Medinah Temple than that by the Imperial Council at this session by electing one of our representatives to the station of Imperial Oriental Guide. This means that in 1907 the Imperial Potentate will hail from Medinah Temple, provided, however, that his health is spared and we continue to re-elect him successively for the next five years. Failure to elect him a delegate would vacate his office in the Imperial Council. I earnestly hope that we will continue to re-elect him (F. C. Roundy) one of our delegates until such time as he shall reach the station of Imperial Potentate.

And now, Nobles of Medinah Temple, I thank you for the honor you have conferred and the assistance you have given me. I wish to thank Captain Eddy and his Patrol, together with our Oriental Band, for the valuable assistance they have rendered during my term of office, and to my corps of officers I express my heartfelt thanks for their prompt and punctual attendance and the earnestness in their labors to bring my administration to a successful close, and in conclusion I wish to say whatever my shortcomings may have been I assure you they were of the head and not of the heart. And to you, Noble Chief Rabban, my worthy successsor, I extend my best wishes for your future welfare. Nobles, I thank you.

JOHN W. SWATEK,
Illustrious Potentate.

Recorder's Annual Report.

To the Illustrious Potentate, Officers and Members of Medinah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

NOBLES:—In presenting this my annual Report, I am forcibly reminded that another revolution in the wheel of time has shortened our journey of life and brought us one year nearer that invisible goal which is planted at the termination of our earthly pilgrimage, and I congratulate you, Nobles, on the fact that our Temple has been blessed with prosperity, both numerically and financially. It is a source of great gratification to see the interest manifested by the Nobles in the welfare of Medinah as shown by the large attendance at all meetings during the past year, and at no time during the history of Medinah has there been so small an amount reported for dues unpaid.

I deem it desirable at this time to ask you to take a retrospective view of the financial progress which Medinah Temple has developed during my incumbency of the office of Recorder. At the time of my first election in January, 1894, the cash balance in the hands of the Treasurer was five thousand and twenty-seven dollars and thirty-two cents ($5,027.32), also Masonic Fraternity Temple Association stock valued at $2,000, which, together with unpaid dues amounting to $3,440, constituted the assets of the Temple and represented the sum of $10,467.32.

It is with great pleasure and pardonable pride that I call your attention to that part of my report which shows that our present possessions have a value of $62,856.57, representing a gain during the nine years of $52,389.25. The assets comprise cash in hands of Treasurer, $23,773.96; bonds of Medinah Temple Co., $25,400; Masonic Fraternity Temple Association stock, $2,000; Club Room and Temple furniture, unpaid dues, etc., $11,682.61. Such a magnificent showing speaks for itself, and I doubt if it can be equaled by any other Temple under the jurisdiction of the Imperial Council, and the officers who have worked so faithfully and earnestly for the success of Medinah are to be congratulated.

The increase of membership has been as pronounced as the financial growth of the Temple, and to-night we have a membership which places us near the top of the list in point of numbers among the Temples in the Imperial Council.

The Ladies' Entertainment in October was the social event of the past year. The capacity of our hall was taxed to its utmost by a brilliant gathering of the Nobles and their ladies and all were unanimous in pronouncing the occasion a grand success. The beautiful souvenir presented to each lady was much appreciated by the recipients.

The entertainment furnished after the ceremony has been greatly enjoyed by the Nobles as is evidenced by the fact that so many remain till a late hour to enjoy it.

It is my sad duty to acquaint you with the fact that the Black Camel has been in our midst during the past year and thirty-nine Nobles have been called to the unseen Temple above. The list includes the following:

L. E. Steinman, died ——, 1901.
Francis S. Oliver, died February, 1901.
Henry R. Phinney, died December, 1901.
Thomas H. Ross, died January 1, 1902.
A. M. Collins, died January 26, 1902.
Edmond J. Hayes, died February 1, 1902.
Jonathan Clark, died February 5, 1902.
Marshall W. George, died February 6, 1902.
Lewis J. Thompson, died February 11, 1902.
Magnus C. Anderson, died February 14, 1902.
Herman A. Bourne, died March 23, 1902.
Ezra McCord, died April 4, 1902.
William Handlin, died April 20, 1902.
Jacob Spielman, died May 2, 1902.
John Long, died May 12, 1902.
James Myers, died May 14, 1902.
David Allaby, died June 1, 1902.
Edward Mullen, died June 1, 1902.
Emmet F. Enos, died July 15, 1902.
Henry R. Fields, died July 15, 1902.
Otto Foerster, died July 20, 1902.
Freeman O. Wolfe, died August 15, 1902.
Edward D. Ellis, died August 20, 1902.
Noah Nusly, died September 16, 1902.
Alphonso L. Cory, died September 25, 1902.
Frank W. Campbell, died October 3, 1902.
Noah Northway, died October 10, 1902.
Andrew B. Batesman, died October 21, 1902.
Herbert A. Rogers, died October 25, 1902.
Frank H. Marsh, died November 1, 1902.
James J. Bell, died November 4, 1902.
Albert N. Brittan, died November 11, 1902.
William H. Hackett, died November 12, 1902.
LeMar Griste, died November 14, 1902.
Albert W. Rixon, died November 17, 1902.
L. H. Bauer, died November 20, 1902.
W. H. Gibson, died December 11, 1902.
John Ring, died December 14, 1902.
Wesley J. Powers, died December 14, 1902.

We never know till death what depth of root have Love's fair flowers.
Life's setting sun makes heaven's high dawning.
Where with blinding tears we whisper "ended,"
Angels write "begun."

There were held during the past year eight stated meetings, seven of which were for ceremony.

MEMBERSHIP.

Membership last annual report	3,026	
Crossed the burning sands year 1902	440	
Admitted by dimit 1902	11	
Reinstated 1902	15	
Total membership 1902		3,492
Suspended during year 1902	113	
Dimitted during year 1902	54	
Died during year 1902	39	
		206
Net gain for year 1902		260
Present membership		3,286

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1902.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in hands of Treasurer at last annual meeting	$15,777.59	
Received on account of dues	14,278.00	
Received on account of petitions	13,065.00	
Dividend M. F. T. Association	60.00	
Rent of Organ	10.00	
		$43,190.59

DISBURSEMENTS.

Temple Furniture account year 1902	$288.85	
Club Room Furniture account year 1902	1,043.27	
Imperial Council	1,577.35	
Chair Rent	118.95	
Imperial Council Pilgrimage	2,598.41	
Ladies' Night	1,790.73	
Banquet Account year 1902	2,343.00	
Cigars Account year 1902	760.00	
Music Account year 1902	169.00	
Rent and Light year 1902	1,980.00	
Flowers for Funerals and Stage Decorations	361.45	
Vaudeville	755.00	
Printing and Stationery	1,083.00	
Postage and Telegrams	524.50	
Salaries	445.30	
Recorder's Services	$ 1,000.00	
Charity	1,250.00	
Pipe Organ	1,125.00	
Electrical Supplies, etc.	16.63	
Insurance and Taxes	59.74	
Miscellaneous Expenses	126.45	
		$19,416.63
Balance in hands of Treasurer		$23,773.96

ASSETS OF MEDINAH TEMPLE, 1902.

Cash in hands of Treasurer	$23,773.96
Bond of Medinah Temple Co.	25,400.00
Stock of Masonic Fraternity Temple Association	2,000.00
Due by Medinah Temple Company on notes	2,421.00
Clubroom furniture after deducting 10 per cent from last year	1,721.88
Temple furniture and regalia, after deducting 10 per cent from last year	4,944.73
Arrears of dues December 31, 1902	2,595.00
	$62,856.57
Total assets December 31, 1901	55,467.73
Net gain for 1902	$ 7,388.84

In conclusion I desire to say that my relations with my fellow Nobles in the somewhat arduous duties of Recorder have been very pleasant. I have been at all times encouraged and sustained in my humble efforts to promote the welfare of Medinah Temple by the loyal support of both its officers and members, for which I thank you each from the bottom of my heart, and wish you all a bright and prosperous New Year.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. JOHNSTON, Recorder.

Treasurer's Report.

To the Illustrious Potentate, Officers and Members of Medinah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

I herewith submit my Annual Report as Treasurer of Medinah Temple for the year ending December, 1902.

Balance in Treasury, December, 1901	$15,777.59
Received from Recorder	27,413.00
Total to be accounted for	$43,190.59
Paid out on Orders Nos. 601 to 889 inclusive	19,416.63
Balance on hand this date	$23,773.96

HENRY BAKER, Treasurer.

Report of Committee on Finance.

To the Illustrious Potentate, Officers and Members of Medinah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

NOBLES: Your Committee would report as follows: They have examined the books, vouchers and receipts of your Treasurer and Recorder and have compared same with their respective reports and find same correct, and we would recommend that a vote of thanks be extended to our worthy Treasurer, Noble Henry Baker, for the satisfactory manner in which he has performed the duties of his office.

We further recommend that an order be drawn on our Treasurer for the sum of $1,200.00 in favor of our Recorder, Noble William Johnston, as compensation for his services as Recorder during the past year.

We would also recommend that an order be drawn on our Treasurer for the sum of $1,000.00 in favor of the permanent fund of the Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home; also an order of $250.00 in favor of the fund for the Illinois Home for the Aged, and an order for the sum of $250.00 in favor of the Eastern Star and Masonic Home for the Widows of Masons, at Macon, Illinois, as Christmas gifts to these several Homes from Medinah Temple.

JOHN W. SWATEK.
SAMUEL H. SMITH.
HARRIS W. HUEHL.
CHESTER T. DRAKE.
WM. M. KNIGHT.